CHILDRENS CLUB

COUNSELLING

PUPPETS IN THE PULPIT

# Is God Calling You?

IN THE BUSH

PARISH WORK

INDUSTRIAL OUTREACH

## THE CHURCH ARMY IN AUSTRALIA

A Society of Evangelists within the Anglican Church

The Church Army is a Society of Anglican men and women dedicated to the Church's task of evangelism. They are employed in parishes and specialist areas of ministry. Reaching out and challenging men and women to respond to the Good News of Jesus Christ. Can you see yourself as part of this team?

1. **Are you an Anglican and active in Church life?**
2. **Do you have faith in God and know Christ?**
3. **Have you a real love of people and able to mix and communicate well with others?**
4. **Do you have the ability to accept new ideas and adapt to new situations?**
5. **Are you between 20-35 years old?**

If you can say a positive "Yes" to these questions then we would like to hear from you.

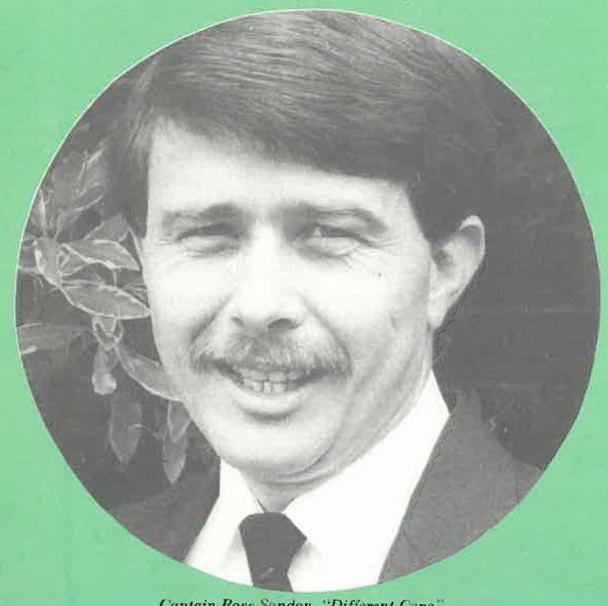
Write to: The Candidates Secretary,
P.O. Box 107, Frenchs Forest, N.S.W. 2086.

# THE PIONEER

THE MAGAZINE OF THE CHURCH ARMY IN AUSTRALIA

*"I" Witness Mobile Evangelistic Ministry Team*

*Captain Ron Griffin, "Up River"*



*Captain Ross Sandon, "Different Caps"*

*PJ's Kings Cross*

## CHURCH ARMY IN AUSTRALIA

A Society of Evangelists within the Anglican Church

Reg. by Aust. Post
Publication No. NAR1149

NOVEMBER 1986

# PJ'S

*P.J.'S Coffee Shop Opening Night*

*Rev. Capt. John McKnight C.A.*

P.J.'S is located in one of the most seamy parts of Sydney right in the hub of the prostitution and drug scene of the City. It was started by the Anglican Parish of East Sydney which combines the 2 churches St. John's, Kings Cross and St. Peters, Wooloomooloo. Hence the name — P.J.'S.

This new venture is a coffee shop and drop-in centre situated on the corner of Forbes Street and St. Peter's Lane. To the right is the infamous Premiers Lane, notorious for its trans-sexual male prostitutes. To the left is the traditional Red Light District where as many as 50 women can be seen on the streets.

The coffee shop is staffed by more than 20 volunteers and they are divided into three teams. Team Leaders are, Thursday night, Captain Guy Davidson, C.A.; Friday night, Rev. Capt. John McKnight, C.A.; and Saturday night, Rev. Stephen Gray. Each team is responsible for organising and running the coffee shop, with a number of people going out on the streets to make contact with "at risk youth", male and female prostitutes and other marginal people to invite them to come to the coffee shop.

P.J.'S was officially opened on the 18th September, 1986 by Bishop John Reid. About 100 people attended the opening. Amongst those present was Michael Yabsley, the local member of Parliament who spoke about the need for such an outreach in that part of Kings Cross. He said, "that John McKnight, (Rev. John McKnight, C.A., Rector of East Sydney) should be commended for being the driving force behind the P.J.'S project". He also reminded us that John was no stranger to innovative ministry and recalled John's pioneer work in drug rehabilitation and his continuing concern on drug related problems. (As a young Church Army Captain, John McKnight opened and ran the Buttery in Northern N.S.W. It was one of the first drug rehabilitation centres of its kind in Australia. It is now run by the State Government).

Originally it was planned to operate P.J.'S on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights from 8.00 p.m. to 12.00 p.m. and it was hoped that within 12 months it would be operating 24 hours a day and six days a week. Already the coffee shop is opening the three nights as planned though often staying open till 2.30 a.m., as Peter Hewitt who has been appointed Co-ordinator, pointed out "the prime work time for prostitutes working the streets is 9.00 p.m. to midnight. So we have extended our hours to gain contact after midnight", he went on to say, "they seem to appreciate someone really caring and also say they like the peaceful atmosphere of the coffee shop. We are now also open 10.00 a.m. — 5.00 p.m. Monday to Friday. Everything seems to be coming together".

There is a very strict policy of supervision — there is no smoking indoors, no soliciting and no drugs or drug deals allowed on the premises.

So far response to the project has been very good. The police are enthusiastic and supporting it, and the parishioners of both St. Peter's and St. John's are enthusiastic about the venture.

It is hoped that eventually funds will be available to employ three full-time staff members to extend the ministry and outreach capabilities of P.J.'S.

Should you wish to offer to help, or need more details about P.J.'S. please contact Rev. John McKnight, C/- St. John's Anglican Church, 120 Darlinghurst Road, Darlinghurst 2010, or Ring (02) 357 6844.

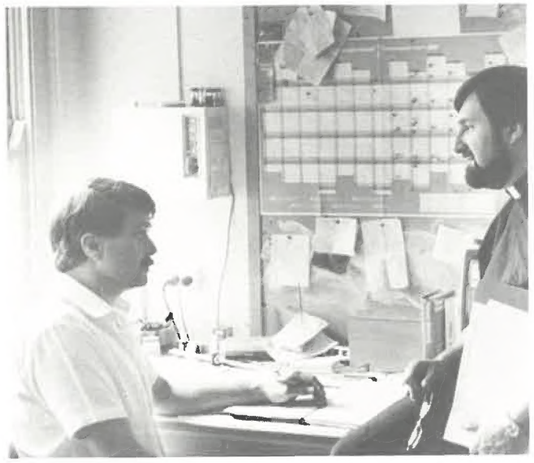


# Different Caps

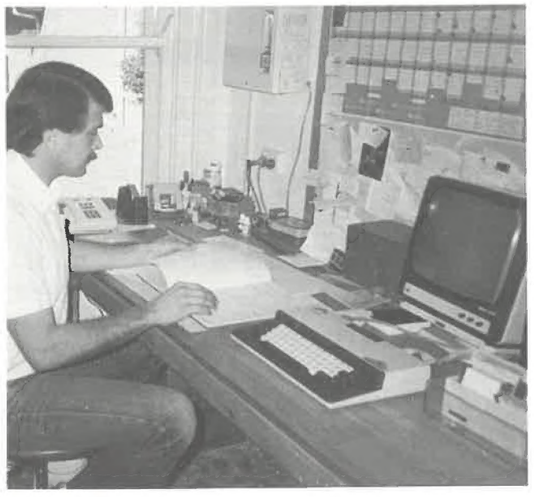
Church Army Officers are used to wearing many different caps in the course of their ministry. Captain Ross Sandon, C.A., Manager of the Diocesan Conference Centre, Grafton is no exception. Ross came to Church Army from the nearby Parish of Dee Why, a northern beaches suburb of Sydney. Whilst studying at the Church Army College of Evangelism, he met his wife Fiona. They married shortly after Ross' graduation four years ago. Fiona is expecting their first child.

Prior to joining Church Army Ross worked in a variety of jobs. This included two years in the Police Force, also two business ventures; one promoting and hiring Rock'N'Roll Bands and the other a gardening and maintenance company. Perhaps it is from this background that he has gained such personal versatility. His immediate goal is to make the Diocesan Centre a viable proposition, with good facilities for running various types of seminars, etc. giving good value for money in a ministry of hospitality.

You'll find Ross in overalls more than in C.A. uniform. The job calls for many skills, cooking, gardening, painting, bookkeeping and many others. His tools include skillet, spade, paint brush, computer and the ability to organise.



*Captain Ross Sandon and Archdeacon Richard Hurford (Bearded)*



*At home in kitchen or on computer*

The accommodation can stretch to 40 beds and at a recent Clergy Conference 110 were fed. Some present "complained" of being over fed! "We try to look after people", Ross says. "We want them to feel at home. It is a centre of ministry to the Diocese, helping to keep the Body in shape".

"Right now", says Archdeacon Richard Hurford, Dean of Grafton, "We've got Ross (Captain Ross Sandon, C.A.) doing a lot of very ordinary and mundane jobs. He is however playing a vital part in getting the Diocesan Centre organised and functioning efficiently, so we can train people here from right throughout the Diocese."

"To many people 1988, the Bi Centenary Year will involve fireworks and flag waving. I suppose we in Grafton will do our share of this too. We will also be celebrating 1988 as a year of evangelistic outreach. By then we expect the Centre to be in use as an Evangelism Resource and Training Centre, with resources comparable to any in Australia. 1986 is preparation, 1987 will be equipping and 1988 will be outreach. Much of this says Dean Hurford, "will depend on the ground work Captain Sandon is putting in now, plus his expertise to enable us to have at our call the resources we will need in 1988. Ross and his wife, Fiona are welcome members of our team and we thank Church Army for them".

Away from the Centre, Ross has the responsibility of being the Branch Governor of the local C.E.B.S. A role he enjoys greatly. Recently many C.E.B.S. from Branches in the Diocese held a camp based in the Diocesan Centre grounds. We are told the giant flying fox and the huge waterslide erected for the boys was enjoyed by "ALL"!

Church work finds Ross leading and preaching regularly on a rostered basis at the Cathedral.

So whether it's in the kitchen or the Cathedral, catering for C.E.B.S. or clergy, painting or preaching, Ross Sandon follows the Church Army tradition of reaching out no matter what the evangelistic environment.

*Ross and Fiona Sandon*

*Rev Michael Rees*

# Meet "The Chief"

The Chief Secretary of the Church Army in Britain, the Rev. Michael Rees, will preach at the Service of Admitting and Commissioning held at 8 p.m. in the Provisional Cathedral of St. John, Church Street, Parramatta on Friday 5th December, 1986.

The Right Rev. K.H. Short will Admit to the Office of Evangelist those who have successfully completed their training.

The Federal Director will Commission as Officers of the Society. . .

All are most welcome at this Service, and the supper which follows.

THE CHURCH ARMY
COLLEGE OF EVANGELISM

## COME TO COLLEGE FOR A WEEK

Small Group Summer School in January 1987

Two years ago the College organised its first "Small Group Summer School". Twelve people, representing a wide age range, spent an enjoyable five days of worship, fellowship and learning led by the College Staff. Subjects explored included 'Ministry of Caring', 'Building a Better Prayer Life' and 'Applying Christian Ethics in the Modern World'. A similar programme will be held this year, exploring other topics, led by the College Principal and involving several guest lecturers.

"Small Group Summer School" will be held Monday 19th January to Friday 23rd January. We are planning for 24 participants, preferably twelve locals attending from 9.00 am to 5.00 pm and twelve country or inter-state people living in at the College. There will be no evening programme and country people will be welcome to stay on at the College on the weekend if they wish.

Basic cost for lectures, notes, catered lunch etc. will be $110.00. (Extra for residential). Registrations now open. Please send a deposit of $10.00 with bookings to The Principal, P.O. Box 107, French's Forest 2086. Phone enquiries 451 8395 or 451 0928. We would be grateful if parishes could advertise this programme locally.

# NEWS

Captain Graeme Liersch — Miss Susan Lyons, married, 2nd August, 1986 at St. Mary's, Guildford, N.S.W.

Captain Tom Clarke — Miss Jane Carroll married, 6th October, 1986 at Frenchs Forest Baptist Church, N.S.W.

Captain Peter Holmes — Miss Kathy Tomkin, engaged to be married, 3rd January, 1987 at Frenchs Forest Baptist Church, N.S.W.

Captain Mark Stockwell — Miss Lisa Wilkin, engaged to be married, 14th March, 1987 at Holy Trinity Church, Beacon Hill, N.S.W.

Miss Gai Atwell — Mr. Nicholas Pastor, engaged to be married, 25th April, 1987 at St. Georges' Anglican Church. Hurstville, N.S.W.

*To all our readers and supporters we wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.*

*Thank you for your support, prayers, encouragement and donations in 1986.*

*We look forward to sharing with you in 1987.*

# WILLS & BEQUESTS

REMEMBER GOD'S WILL IN YOUR WORK
AND REMEMBER GOD'S WORK IN YOUR WILL

The Church Army has been in Australia for over 50 years. Through its Officers, men and women, its ministry has been felt in many Parishes. Our vision is to grow and to extend our ministry throughout Australia. You can support this vision by making a special and lasting gift to Church Army through your will.

For more information contact Wal Spencer, Church Army in Australia, P.O. Box 107, Frenchs Forest, N.S.W. 2086, or ring (02) 451 8395.

# EDITORIAL
## Moths & Rust?

One of the problems with any organisation is that its executives can become desk bound. Day to day duties keep well-intentioned people away from "where the action is!" The moths and the rust can eat us away and we lose much of our effectiveness.

This year at Church Army Federal Head Quarters and the College of Evangelism has been busy with many opportunities to get out and share. This sharing varies in accordance to our skills and our particular role in Church Army.

**Captain Gilbert Page, Federal Director,** has had an active year in field work, preaching, teaching, missions and mission preparation and many other areas of outreach ministry. His travels have taken him to Launceston, Meander and Deloraine (Diocese of Tasmania), Gympie, Burleigh Heads (Brisbane Diocese), Mossman, Weipa, Thursday Island (Diocese of Carpentaria), Kempsey, Bellingen (Grafton Diocese), Greythorn, Greensborough, Melton South (Melbourne Diocese), Denman, Nelson Bay (Newcastle Diocese) and Bathurst. In the Sydney Diocese he has had ministry in the parishes of Camden, East Sydney, Willoughby, Ryde, Balgowlah, Castle Hill, Frenchs Forest, Darlinghurst, Glebe, Kingsford, Lakemba, Blue Mountains (C.E.B.S. Training Camp), and St. Andrew's House (Committee Meetings).

**Rev. Graeme MacRobb, Principal of the Church Army College of Evangelism,** has had a full programme of deputation work, teaching, and training of lay people and clergy, missions and mission preparation etc. This work has taken him to Greythorn (Melbourne Diocese), Cann River (Gippsland Diocese), Waratah, Kincumber, East Maitland and Wyoming (Newcastle Diocese), West Cairns (North Queensland Diocese), Mosman (Diocese of Carpentaria), Perth (twice), The Gap and Bardon (Brisbane Diocese), Adelaide, South Canberra, Maitland (Willochra Diocese), West Dubbo (Bathurst Diocese), Kyogle (Grafton Diocese) and Bunbury, W.A.

As well as this Inter and Intra-State work, Graeme has had a heavy teaching schedule at the Church Army College. Together with solid teaching and preaching engagements in the parishes of Normanhurst, Balgowlah, Beacon Hill, Manly, Menangle, South Hurstville, Frenchs Forest, Bondi, Northbridge, Newtown, Killara, Belrose, Brighton, all in the Sydney Diocese.

*Captain Brian Mattinson and Captain Gilbert Page (beard)*

**Captain Brian Mattinson, Staff Captain and Administration Officer,** in his work has regular contact with the Church Army officers in the field. His movements include staff visits, deputation work and preaching. Places visited this year are, Urunga, Grafton, Lismore, Bangalow, Nambucca Heads, Tweed Heads, Bellingen, Kempsey, The Buttery Project (Grafton Diocese), Newcastle, Dungog, Cessnock, Waratah (Newcastle Diocese), Melton South, Greythorn , Greensborough (Melbourne Diocese), Bendigo, Traralgon (Gippsland Diocese), Walcha (Armidale Diocese), Campbelltown, Darlinghurst, East Sydney, Kensington, Mosman, Manly Vale, Balgowlah, Forestville, Eagle Vale, Gymea, Mona Vale and Riverwood (Sydney Diocese).

Both Captain Page and Captain Mattinson are regular lecturers at the Church Army College of Evangelism.

*Rev Graeme MacRobb*

The latter part of this year I have managed to organise more time away from Church Army Head Quarters. Visiting officers in the field and speaking at various Churches. Firstly a trip to North Queensland visiting Townsville, Ravenshoe and Yarrabah. In August I took part in deputation work in the Grafton Diocese spending time at Kempsey, Grafton, Lismore, Maclean, Yambah, Iluka, Bellingen. In the Sydney Diocese I've enjoyed sharing at Church Services, Youth Fellowships, Prayer Groups, Children Groups, and others. The parishes include Guildford, Parramatta, Claymore, Oatley West, Kensington, Mossman, Minto, Newport and Sadlier.

We all enjoy the opportunities to tell people about Church Army and its evangelistic outreach ministry. Help wrench us from our desks. Please contact us to speak at your Church.

WAL SPENCER
Publicity & Development